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standard pursuant to paragraph (c)(2) of this section for the area.

- (5) *Population.* The total population of HUD-approved exception areas in an FMR area may not include more than 50 percent of the population of the FMR area.
- (6) Withdrawal or modification. At any time, HUD may withdraw or modify approval to use an exception payment standard amount.
- (7) Transition: Area exception rents approved prior to merger date. Subject to paragraph (c)(6) of this section, the PHA may establish an exception payment standard amount up to the amount of a HUD-approved area exception rent in effect at the merger date.
- (d) HUD approval of payment standard amount below the basic range. HUD may consider a PHA request for approval to establish a payment standard amount that is lower than the basic range. At HUD's sole discretion, HUD may approve PHA establishment of a payment standard lower than the basic range. In determining whether to approve the PHA request, HUD will consider appropriate factors, including rent burden of families assisted under the program. HUD will not approve a lower payment standard if the family share for more than 40 percent of participants in the PHA's voucher program exceeds 30 percent of adjusted monthly income. Such determination may be based on the most recent examinations of family in-
- (e) HUD review of PHA payment standard schedules. (1) HUD will monitor rent burdens of families assisted in a PHA's voucher program. HUD will review the PHA's payment standard for a particular unit size if HUD finds that 40 percent or more of such families occupying units of that unit size currently pay more than 30 percent of adjusted monthly income as the family share. Such determination may be based on the most recent examinations of family income.
- (2) After such review, HUD may, at its discretion, require the PHA to modify payment standard amounts for any unit size on the PHA payment standard schedule. HUD may require the PHA to

establish an increased payment standard amount within the basic range.

[64 FR 26648, May 14, 1999; 64 FR 49658, Sept. 14, 1999, as amended at 64 FR 56914, Oct. 21, 1999; 65 FR 16822, Mar. 30, 2000]

§ 982.504 Voucher tenancy: Payment standard for family in restructured subsidized multifamily project.

- (a) This section applies to tenantbased assistance under the voucher program if all the following conditions are applicable:
- (1) Such tenant-based voucher assistance is provided to a family pursuant to § 401.421 of this title when HUD has approved a restructuring plan, and the participating administrative entity has approved the use of tenant-based assistance to provide continued assistance for such families. Such tenant-based voucher assistance is provided for a family previously receiving project-based assistance in an eligible project (as defined in § 401.2 of this title) at the time when the project-based assistance terminates.
- (2) The family chooses to remain in the restructured project with tenantbased assistance under the program and leases a unit that does not exceed the family unit size;
- (3) The lease for such assisted tenancy commences during the first year after the project-based assistance terminates.
- (b) The initial payment standard for the family under such initial lease is the sum of the reasonable rent to owner for the unit plus the utility allowance for tenant-paid utilities. (Determination of such initial payment standard for the family is not subject to paragraphs (c)(1) and (c)(2) of §982.505. Except for determination of the initial payment standard as specifically provided in paragraph (b) of this section, the payment standard and housing assistance payment for the family during the HAP contract term shall be determined in accordance with §982.505.)

[64 FR 26649, May 14, 1999]

§ 982.505 Voucher tenancy: How to calculate housing assistance payment.

(a) *Use of payment standard.* A payment standard is used to calculate the monthly housing assistance payment

for a family. The "payment standard" is the maximum monthly subsidy payment.

- (b) Amount of monthly housing assistance payment. The PHA shall pay a monthly housing assistance payment on behalf of the family that is equal to the *lower* of:
- (1) The payment standard for the family minus the total tenant payment; or
- (2) The gross rent minus the total tenant payment.
- (c) Payment standard for family. (1) The payment standard for the family is the lower of:
- (i) The payment standard amount for the family unit size; or
- (ii) The payment standard amount for the size of the dwelling unit rented by the family.
- (2) If the PHA has established a separate payment standard amount for a designated part of an FMR area in accordance with §982.503 (including an exception payment standard amount as determined in accordance with §982.503(b)(2) and §982.503(c)), and the dwelling unit is located in such designated part, the PHA must use the appropriate payment standard amount for such designated part to calculate the payment standard for the family. The payment standard for the family shall be calculated in accordance with this paragraph and paragraph (c)(1) of this section.
- (3) During the first 24 months of the HAP contract term, the payment standard for a family is the higher of:
- (i) The initial payment standard (at the beginning of the HAP contract term), as determined in accordance with paragraphs (c)(1) and (c)(2) of this section, minus any amount by which the initial rent to owner exceeds the current rent to owner; or
- (ii) The payment standard, as determined in accordance with paragraphs (c)(1) and (c)(2) of this section, as determined at the most recent regular reexamination of family income and composition effective after the beginning of the HAP contract term.
- (4) After the first 24 months of the HAP contract term, the payment standard for a family is the payment standard for the family as determined in accordance with paragraphs (c)(1)

- and (c)(2) of this section, as determined at the effective date of the most recent regular reexamination of family income and composition effective after the beginning of the HAP contract term.
- (5) At the next regular reexamination following a change in family size or composition that causes a change in family unit size during the HAP contract term, and for any examination thereafter during the term:
- (i) Paragraph (c)(3)(i) of this section does not apply; and
- (ii) The new family unit size must be used to determine the payment standard.
- (d) PHA approval of higher payment standard for the family as a reasonable accommodation. If the family includes a person with disabilities and requires a higher payment standard for the family, as a reasonable accommodation for such person, in accordance with part 8 of this title, the PHA may establish a higher payment standard for the family within the basic range.

[64 FR 26649, May 14, 1999, as amended at 64 FR 56914, Oct. 21, 1999; 65 FR 16822, Mar. 30, 2000]

§ 982.506 Negotiating rent to owner.

The owner and the family negotiate the rent to owner. At the family's request, the PHA must help the family negotiate the rent to owner.

[63 FR 23861, Apr. 30, 1998. Redesignated at 64 FR 26648, May 14, 1999]

§ 982.507 Rent to owner: Reasonable rent.

- (a) *PHA determination.* (1) The PHA may not approve a lease until the PHA determines that the initial rent to owner is a reasonable rent.
- (2) The PHA must redetermine the reasonable rent:
- (i) Before any increase in the rent to owner:
- (ii) If there is a five percent decrease in the published FMR in effect 60 days before the contract anniversary (for the unit size rented by the family) as compared with the FMR in effect 1 year before the contract anniversary; or
 - (iii) If directed by HUD.
- (3) The PHA may also redetermine the reasonable rent at any other time.